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PATENT  
10/661,326

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: David A. Cook, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/661,326  
Filing Date: September 12, 2003  
Confirmation No.: 9358  
Title: *System and Method for Verifying the Validity of a Path in a Network Environment*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

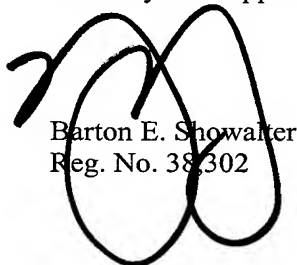
**REQUEST FOR STATUS**

Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. The Filing Receipt was received December 12, 2003. Applicant(s) are currently awaiting a first Office Action.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and neither a Notification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 nor a Notice of Allowance under 35 U.S.C. § 151 have been received. Thus, a period of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

If there are any matters that can be resolved through a telephone conference, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant(s) at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)



Barton E. Showalter  
Reg. No. 38,302

Date: 3/18/07  
2001 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980  
Telephone No. (214) 953-6509  
(bjs)